Drive-in for
DOSA
8 AM - 11 AM & 5 PM - 10 PM
HOTEL
SIDDHARTA
NAZARABAD, MYSURU PH: 2522999

STAR OF MYSORE

OUR EVENING DAILY

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MYSURU Thursday 25th December 2025
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Radisson BLU
PLAZA HOTEL MYSORE
Merry Christmas
May Christmas wrap your heart in warmth, your days in peace, and your life in moments worth holding close forever.

Rs. 22 cr. site con FOILED

- Attempt to transfer 22 sites developed and owned by former BJP MLC Siddaraju blocked
- Alert DTP operator halts GPA fraud at Vijayanagar Sub-Registrar's office

Mysuru, Dec. 25 (RK,MTY&VNS)- Thanks to the alertness of a DTP operator, an attempt to fraudulently transfer a property comprising 22 sites, estimated to be worth Rs. 22 crore, was foiled at the office of the Sub-Registrar (West) at Vijayanagar Second Stage yesterday.

The sites form part of Chamundi Sooru Nagar, a private layout developed by former BJP MLC Siddaraju at Kergalli in Mysuru.

The accused had attempted to register a General Power of Attorney (GPA) that would have authorised the holder to sell the sites, pay property tax, transfer khata and carry out other related transactions. However, the DTP operator at Counter No. 1 grew suspicious after noticing a discrepancy in the age details between the property owner and the proposed GPA holder.

When questioned, the person claimed that the GPA was being executed in the name of his youngest brother, stating that he was the 13th child born to their parents.

Siddaraju** (extreme right) **filing a complaint with Sub-Registrar (West) N. Srikanth at his office in Vijayanagar Second Stage in city yesterday.

The DTP operator, who was familiar with Siddaraju as he had visited the office on several occasions earlier for registration of other sites, immediately alerted her higher officials and put the GPA registration process on hold.

Sensing that the fraud had been exposed, the accused escaped from the office along with the documents and his accomplices.

Subsequently, the staff contacted Siddaraju to verify whether he knew the persons who had attempted to register the GPA. Shocked by the development, Siddaraju informed the officials that he was unaware of them and requested that the registration be withheld.

Staff members rushed to trace the suspects, but they had already fled the premises.

Official complaint lodged

Yesterday (Dec. 24), Siddaraju visited the Sub-Registrar's office and submitted a written complaint along with all relevant documents related to the layout and the sites.

He also requested Sub-Registrar N. Srikanth to provide a copy of photograph of the person who had come to register the GPA. A complaint was also lodged at the Vijayanagar Police Station seeking action against those involved in the fraudulent attempt.

(See SITE CON on page 7)

Greetings

Star of Mysore wishes a Merry Christmas to all our Christian brothers, sisters and readers, who are celebrating the festival today.

—Management

Silks Since 1944

Sudarshan
FAMILY STORE
MYSORE - HARDINGE CIRCLE
#26/1, Nazarbaad, Mysore - 10
0821-4009100

X-mas celebrated in city

Bishop Francis Serrao SJ leads rituals at St. Philomena's Church

*PIC. 1: **Bishop of Mysuru Most Rev. Dr. Francis Serrao SJ carrying the idol of Infant Jesus.** PIC. 2: **Bishop placing the idol of Infant Jesus in the crib.** PIC. 3: **Bishop sprinkling Holy Water on the crib to herald Christmas celebrations at St. Philomena's Church in city last midnight.***

Mysuru, Dec. 25 (VVH, MTY & BS)- Special prayers were offered at Churches across the city to mark the birth of Jesus Christ, celebrated worldwide as Christmas, last midnight.

More than 40 Churches, particularly St. Philomena's Church on Ashoka Road in Lashkar Mohalla, wore a festive look as a huge congregation of Christians gathered to participate in 'Bali Puja' and other traditional rituals associated with the festival.

Most Rev. Dr. Francis Serrao SJ, Bishop of Mysuru, placed the idol of the Infant Jesus in a specially prepared crib in the Church premises at around 11.30 pm amid the rendition of Carols by singing troupes. The event was witnessed by thousands of devotees.

New Year greetings: Delivering a special Christmas message, Bishop Serrao extended greetings to faithful and conveyed his wishes for New Year.

(See X-MAS on page 7)

STAR OF MYSORE

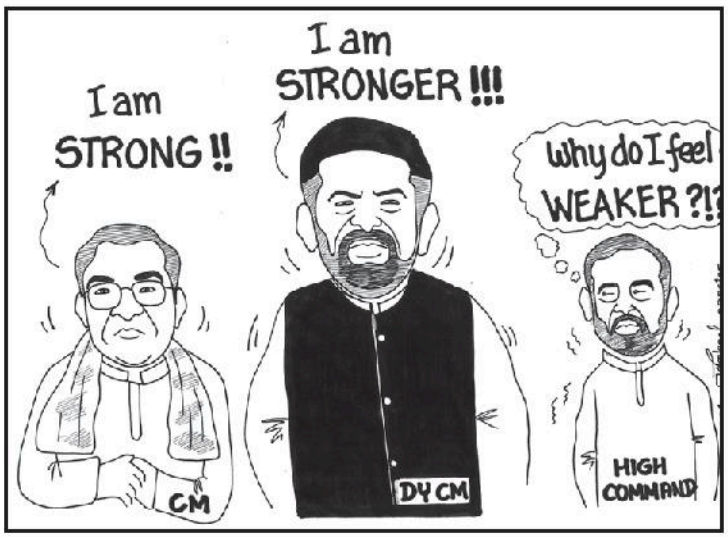
"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Thursday 25th December 2025

TEASER

By N. Prakash



EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

RETHINKING UNION WITH GOD: *Around 600 years before Christ came on earth (the event celebrated as 'Christmas'), the highest-ever standard of spiritual aspiration was being set on the Indian sub-continent. The Vedas, still in oral form, were almost complete. Teacher-priests were progressively postulating that the ultimate reality was union with Brahman ('God', in simple language).*

By contrast, around the same time, in the land of the Jews, a prophet was writing, "Will you say, 'I am a god,' though you are but a man and no god?" (Ezekiel 28:9). About 600 years later, Christ said about the teacher-priests of his time, "They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on people's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to move them" (Mathew 23:4). Whether high aspirations (such as realising godhood) or never-ending ceremonial minutiae (as at Jesus's time), the cumulative burden on common people can become very heavy.

If ancestral sin or karmic debt is believed to carry across multiple generations or births, then especially for people born in supposedly lower spiritual strata, their sense of self-worth can take a heavy blow right from birth. The Jewish teachers, who assigned themselves highest spiritual grade, said to an oppressed man whose blind eyes Jesus had miraculously healed, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they threw him out of the temple (John 9:34).

A popular Christmas carol has the words, "sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying" to express human vulnerability — and Jesus's union, as God, with humanity, rather than the other way around. For Jesus, tat tvam asi ("That Thou Art") referred to the hungry, the thirsty, migrants, the naked, the sick or prisoners: He said that what was done for them was done for him (Matthew 25:35, 40). "Though he was in the form of God, he did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made himself nothing, being born in the likeness of men" (Philippians 2:6, 7).

This is joy to the world: that Jesus Christ was born, and his eventual "bleeding, dying" on the Cross was a sacrifice that eternally cancelled every believer's accumulated debt. It allows God's goodness to be mine, through a union that was attained for me, rather than by me!

— Som Thomas in Deccan Herald

NEWS SPARKLERS

Artist turns grandpa into young man

Shanghai: Makeup artist Sakuralusi has been getting a lot of attention for her transformation videos where she turned her elderly grandpa into youthful, anime-inspired characters.

The power of makeup in the hands of a gifted master like Sakuralusi, a young Chinese makeup artist, has been showcased in China's social media.

She has been posting make-up-related videos on the popular social network for a while now, but she really started getting attention when she began using her grandfather as a model, turning the 66-year-old man into anime-inspired idols that look at least 3 decades younger than his actual age.

The changes to the old man's face are so considerable, that those who have seen these side-by-side photos refuse to believe that they are the same person.

Controversial bull Vs bird battle

Lima: The small village of Coyllurqui is famous for a controversial "blood festival", the highlight of which is a symbolic battle between a condor and a bull.

The Peruvian Blood Festival known as the Yawar Fiesta is a big deal in Coyllurqui, a small mountain village a nine-hour bus ride away from the city of Cusco. It's pretty much the only place in the South American country where tourists can experience the traditional bird vs. bull fight anymore.

The battle used to be held in cities centuries ago, but animal rights activists managed to get it banned years ago. However, in remote rural settlements like Coyllurqui, enforcing the law is tricky, especially when that goes against the economic interest of the locals.

If any condor is killed or injured during the fight, which usually lasts about 30 minutes, it is considered a bad omen for the year.

HEALTH CAPSULE

A pacemaker supports—not replaces—the heart

Pacemakers assist the heart's natural electrical system when signals slow or become irregular, helping maintain a steady and reliable heartbeat.

By Dr. C.B. Keshavamurthy - Senior Consultant – Interventional Cardiology, Manipal Hospitals, Mysuru

manipalhospitals LIFE'S ON

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

Selected for National-level Badminton Championship

Mysuru, Dec. 25 - Manish, a II PUC (EBAS) student of Trinity College in city has been selected to represent Karnataka at the National-level Shuttle Badminton Competition to be held in New Delhi from Dec. 21 to Jan. 7, after winning the State-level Shuttle Badminton Championship organised by the Department of School Education and the Pre-University Board at Madikeri recently.

Meanwhile, Ananya Lobo, a II PUC (EBAC) and Narayani Marekudige, I PUC (EBAS) ended up in runner-up position representing Mysuru Girls Team in the same tournament.

Trinity College Chairman Elizar Milton, Secretary Dr. Shama E. Milton, Principal Vinay Kumar S. Donge, staff and students have congratulated all three players for their outstanding achievements, according to a press release.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM	KABINI DAM	HARANGI DAM
Maximum **124.80 feet**	Maximum **2,284 feet**	Maximum **2,859 feet**
Today's level **123.92 feet**	Today's level **2,275.71 feet**	Today's level **2,827.77 feet**
Last year's level **124.80 feet**	Last year's level **2,279.00 feet**	Last year's level **2,833.80 feet**
Yesterday's level **123.94 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,275.67 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,827.82 feet**
Today's Inflow **2,168 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **439 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **203 cusecs**
Today's Outflow **2,295 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **120 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **200 cusecs**

REALLY...?

- *About 4,500 years ago the ancient Egyptians worshiped cats. The Egyptians probably domesticated, or tamed, wild cats about 3,500 years ago. They used these cats to kill the rats and mice that ate their stored grain.*

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

After bringing the luggage from the bus down to the driver...

Dino: *Driver, how much is the luggage charge?*

Driver: *Give something for tea.*

Dino: *Say what you want.*

Driver: *Rs. 500.*

Dino: *What? Are you going to drink tea in a biriyani making vessel?!*

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 89.82
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 121.41
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 24.46
1 Euro	= Rs. 105.78

VOICE OF THE READER

Prevent garbage dumping at Ward 27, Lashkar Mohalla

Sir,

This is to bring to your attention a serious issue occurring in Ward No. 27, Lashkar Mohalla, specifically opposite my residence and directly opposite the Government Urdu Primary School, Mohammed Sait Block.

For the past several weeks, people have been throwing garbage in this area, turning it into an unhygienic spot. During night time, a few individuals are also using this place for urination and, in some cases, as a shed for cows.

This situation is causing a foul smell, mosquito breeding and allergy-related issues for residents in the locality, including school children.

I request the MCC authorities to arrange for immediate cleaning of this spot and take necessary steps to ensure that no garbage is dumped here in the future. Installing warning boards, conducting regular monitoring, or placing barricades may help in preventing further misuse of this area.

—Mohammed Shaik Fardeen
Mysuru
4.12.2025

AIIMS-like super speciality hospital in Mandya: PM Modi approves

Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy seeks 10 acres of land close to Mysuru-Bengaluru Highway for the hospital

Bengaluru, Dec. 25 (KMS & BS)- In a major boost to health infrastructure in Mandya district and surroundings, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given his consent for the proposal to establish a super speciality hospital on the lines of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS).

Following a proposal submitted by Union Minister for Heavy Industries and Steel H.D. Kumaraswamy, who is also the Mandya MP, Modi has given his approval to build the hospital under Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY), at an estimated cost of Rs. 311 crore.

Kumaraswamy has written to the State Government to allot 10 acres of land adjacent to Mysuru-Bengaluru Highway. The intent is to build the hospital between Mandya and Maddur.

Narendra Modi Kumaraswamy

Hi-tech hospital at MIMS

Besides, the State Health and Family Welfare Department has written to the Union Minister to explore possibilities of constructing a hi-tech hospital at the premises of Mandya Institute of Medical Sciences (MIMS). If 10-acre land is provided, it would come in handy in upgrading the hospital in the coming days.

Kumaraswamy is learnt to have impressed upon the State Government stating that if the land is allotted at the said place, those in want of medical facilities from Tumakuru and Ramanagar districts, can avail of the benefits.

The AIIMS-like super speciality hospital, if becomes a reality, assures a slew of health facilities round-the-clock like AIIMS which includes 24x7 emergency, trauma centre and treatment for cancer, cardiac and other health related issues.

New OPD complex to ease patient rush at K.R. Hospital

Rs. 75 crore Outpatient Department facilities to strengthen regional healthcare hub

The site where the new OPD Block will come up at K.R. Hospital premises.

Mysuru, Dec. 25 (RK&BCT)- Founded and built by Maharaja Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar with the vision of providing free healthcare to poor, Mysuru's *Doddaspathre* — K.R. Hospital — is set to witness a major infrastructure upgrade.

A modern multi-storey Outpatient Department (OPD) complex will soon come up within the historic hospital premises to cater to the growing healthcare needs of the region.

K.R. Hospital serves not only Mysuru city and district but also receives a large influx of patients from neighbouring districts such as Chamarajanagar, Kodagu, Hassan and Mandya.

With mounting pressure on existing outpatient and inpatient services, the Mysore Medical College and Research Institute (MMC&RI) proposed the construction of a new OPD Block to bring multiple healthcare services under one roof and improve patient convenience.

Rs. 75 crore project gets Government nod

Recognising the urgent requirement, the Karnataka Government approved the proposal in the previous year's Budget and allocated Rs. 75 crore for the project. The funds have since been released and construction activities are expected to commence shortly.

Following a tender process, the Health and Family Welfare Department awarded the project to Bengaluru-based Star Infratech. The company will construct a G+3 structure with a total built-up area of 12,840 square metres.

The new complex will be located between the Stone Building, the IPD-OPD block, the Pharmacy store and the Radiology wing within the hospital campus.

Heritage clearance awaited

As part of the preparatory work, an old U-shaped VIP special ward building that was in a dilapidated condition has already been demolished and the site has been handed over to the contractor. Construction will begin after the rerouting of the existing MRI cable line.

Given that K.R. Hospital is a heritage structure, the contractor has sought clearance from the District Heritage Committee. The approval is expected shortly, though it is likely to be granted with specific conditions to protect the heritage character of the campus.

Facilities planned in the OPD Complex

The lower ground floor, spread across 3,300 square metres, will house radiology services including Computed Tomography Scan (CT) and Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), X-ray facilities, a pharmacy store, material store, blower room, LT panel and Medical Gas Pipeline System (MGPS) facilities.

The upper ground floor, covering 3,110 square metres, will include a central registration counter, waiting hall, medicine OPDs, pharmacy, emergency wards with 9 beds for men and 8 for women, emergency observation units with similar bed strength, a six-bed post-operative ward and a major operation theatre.

The first floor, measuring 3,090 square metres, will accommodate dental, venereology, leprosy and dermatology departments, along with a central laboratory. The second floor will also span 3,090 square metres and will feature nine single deluxe wards, 30 semi-special wards and seven VIP suites.

The new OPD complex will be equipped with advanced fire safety systems, high-capacity lifts capable of carrying 20 persons or a patient bed, CCTV surveillance, nurse call systems, UPS backup, audio-visual systems, solar power units and integrated telephone and networking facilities, significantly enhancing healthcare delivery at the historic institution.

A long-awaited project

"K.R. Hospital, built by the erstwhile rulers of Mysore, has long been under mounting pressure in its Outpatient Department. There was an urgent need for a well-organised and spacious OPD facility. With the Government sanctioning funds for this long-awaited project, the institution has taken up the construction of a modern Centenary OPD Complex at K.R. Hospital, marking its hundred-year legacy. Once completed, the new facility will enable patients from Mysuru and surrounding regions to access quality healthcare under one roof."

— Dr. K.R. Dakshayani, Dean and Director, Mysore Medical College and Research Institute

NEWS BRIEFS

Book Release on Dec. 27

The books 'Panchathantra Part - 1 (Mithrabheda)' and 'Bhagavad Gita Saara Sangraha' authored by Dr. K. Krsihnamoorthy Research Foundation Founder-Director and Chief Editor Dr. K. Leela Prakash and 'Haridasara Mundigegalu' authored by renowned writer Dr. Kabbinale Vasanth Bharadwaj will be released on Dec. 27 at Institution of Engineers auditorium, JLB Road, at 5 pm. MLC Dr. D. Thimmaiah will be the chief guest. Senior Writer Dr. C.P. Krishna Kumar (CPK) will preside. Vid. Dr. H.V. Nagaraja Rao and Dr. Leela Prakash will introduce the books. For details, contact Mob: 94485-53797

Story-telling

As part of 'Kathe Kelona Banni-912,' Kalasuruchi has organised story-telling by Venkataramana Bhat, Assistant Professor, Sarada Vilas College, Mysuru at Suruchi Rangamane, Chitrabhanu Road, Kuvempunagar, on Dec. 27 between 4.30 pm and 5.30 pm. For details, contact Mob: 92435-81097.

Ph.D awardees

K.R. Lokesha has been awarded Ph.D in Physical Education by the University of Mysore (UoM) for his thesis 'A Study of Selected Anthropometrical, Motor Fitness and Psychological Variables as Predictors of Skill Performance of University Male Basketball Players' submitted under the guidance of Dr. C. Venkatesh.

H.N. Chandrashekara has been awarded Ph.D in Physical Education by the UoM for his thesis 'Effectiveness of Yogasana Practice on Selected Motor Fitness, Psychomotor Variables and Overall Playing Ability of Junior Male Cricket Players' submitted under the guidance of Dr. C. Venkatesh.

P. Mahadeva Prasad has been awarded Ph.D in Applied Sciences (Physics) by the Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU), Belagavi, for his thesis 'Investigation on the Structure-Property Relationship of Modified / Doped Nanometal Oxide Embedded Water-Soluble Polymer Nanocomposites' submitted under the guidance of Dr. R. Gopalkrishne Urs and Dr. K.S. Nithin.

BJP stages demonstration against Hate Speech Bill

MLA T.S.Srivatsa leading the demonstration organised by KR Constituency BJP Unit in front of 101 Ganapathi Temple yesterday. Picture right shows ex-Mayor Sandesh Swamy leading the demonstration organised by NR Constituency BJP Unit near Shaneshwaraswamy Temple in Rajendranagar.

Mysuru, Dec. 25 (GA&DM)- Strongly opposing the Karnataka Hate Speech and Hate Crimes (Prevention) Bill, 2025, which was introduced in the just concluded Winter Session of the State Legislature at Belagavi, the KR Constituency BJP Unit staged a massive demonstration in front of 101 Ganapathi Temple at Agrahara yesterday, demanding immediate repeal of the Bill.

Addressing the protesters, MLA T.S. Srivatsa said that the Hate Speech Bill, introduced by the Congress Government, is very much against the Constitution. Maintaining that the Bill robs the people of freedom of expression, he said that the Bill was violative of the Constitution.

"The Congress Government is depriving the people of freedom of expression, which is guaranteed by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar in the Constitution. The Government is out to kill the voice of the people through this Draconian Bill, which is very much against the spirit of Democracy. As such, the Government should immediately withdraw the Bill," he said adding that the BJP would petition the Governor against giving assent to the Bill and also move the Court, if the Congress Government does not withdraw the Bill.

The party workers tore a copy of the Bill to register their protest.

City BJP President L. Nagendra, Spokesperson M.G. Mahesh, party leaders Gopal Raje Urs, Jogi Manju, Upendra, Rakesh and others were present.

Protest by NR Unit

The Narasimharaja (NR) Constituency Unit of the BJP too staged a demonstration over the same issue near Shaneshwaraswamy Temple in Rajendranagar here yesterday.

The demonstration was led by former Mayor Sandesh Swamy.

Addressing the protesters, Sandesh Swamy said that the demonstration was part of the Statewide campaign against the Hate Speech Bill. He appealed the Governor not to give assent to the Bill, which he said was introduced to target the Opposition BJP in the State.

Former Corporator Satvik, City BJP Vice-President S. Murali, party leaders S. Manjunath, Padmanabha, Manju C. Gowda, Indira, Kavitha Singh, Anand, Srinivas, Puneeth, Narayan, Jagadish, Kartik and others were present.

Protesters condemn atrocities on Hindus in Bangladesh

Mysuru, Dec. 25 (GA&DM)- Strongly condemning the continuing atrocities and violence against minority Hindus in neighbouring Bangladesh, Hindu activists, under the banner of Hindu Rashtriya Samanvaya Samiti, staged a demonstration in front of the DC's office here yesterday.

"The minority Hindu community in Bangladesh is being targeted by anti-Hindu groups. The brutal killing of Dipu Chandra Das has posed serious questions about the safety and security of minority Hindus in Bangladesh who are living there for decades. Atrocities and violence against Hindus have continued unabated in Bangladesh, which has posed a serious threat to the lives of lakhs of Hindus in that country. The atrocities against Hindus are also a blatant violation of Human Rights. The Bangladesh Government must act against hooligans who are attacking Hindus," they maintained and called for urgent intervention of the Indian Government for ensuring that the rights and freedom of Hindus in Bangladesh are not curtailed.

Leader Gopal and others took part in the protest.

Disproportionate Assets case

Lokayukta raids 10 locations linked to Minister Zameer's aide

Searches conducted in Bengaluru, Kodagu coffee estates and resort at Kabini, Mysuru

Bengaluru, Dec. 25 (KMS& BCT)- Lokayukta sleuths yesterday conducted searches at more than 10 properties linked to Sardar Sarfaraz Khan, a senior official currently on deputation to the Karnataka Housing Department from the Directorate of Co-operative Department, in connection with allegations of amassing assets disproportionate to his known sources of income.

Simultaneous raids were carried out by a team of over 100 Lokayukta officials at multiple locations in Bengaluru, Kodagu and Mysuru districts. In Bengaluru, searches were conducted at Sarfaraz Khan's residence in the Halasuru locality and six other houses in different parts of the city.

In Kodagu district, the sleuths raided two coffee estates allegedly owned by him. A resort near the Kabini backwaters in H.D. Kote taluk of Mysuru district was also searched. The raids reportedly led to the seizure of substantial assets and documents, which are being scrutinised as part of the investigation.

Sarfaraz Khan, a senior KAS officer, has served in various departments and was earlier Joint Commissioner of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), where he handled solid waste management. He has also worked as a Personal Secretary to 7 to 8 Ministers over the years and is considered close to Karnataka Housing, Hajj and Waqf Minister B.Z. Zameer Ahmed Khan.

According to Lokayukta sources, complaints had been filed alleging that Sarfaraz Khan misused his official position to amass wealth worth several crores of rupees. Further investigation is underway.

Obituary

M.R. Sannaramegowda

Mysuru, Dec. 25- M.R. Sannaramegowda (93), a retired Librarian of University of Mysore (UoM) and a resident of Vinayakanagar (Paduvarahalli), passed away here yesterday. He leaves behind his wife, four children and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at Muktidhama in Vijayanagar Fourth Stage yesterday.

Jayalakshmi

Jayalakshmi (74), wife of Senior Advocate N.T. Srinivas and a resident of V.V. Mohalla, passed away here yesterday evening.

She leaves behind her husband, three sons (N.S. Jagannath, N.S. Bhaskar and N.S. Taranath), daughters-in-law, grandchildren and a host of relatives and friends. Last rites were held at her native Natanahalli in Saligrama taluk this afternoon.

Dr. Habeebulla Khan

Dr. Habeebulla Khan (84), son of late Khasim Khan, native of Mysuru and a resident of California, passed away in California on Dec. 24. He leaves behind his wife, 3 sons, 1 daughter and a host of relatives and friends.

He was the President of Islamic Society of Orange County. He was elder brother of Taj Mohamed Khan, Hon. Secretary, Rifahul Muslimeen Educational Trust, Mysuru.

Namaz-e-Janaza was held yesterday at Islamic Society of Orange County after Zohar followed by burial at Westminster Memorial 14801 Beach Blvd, Westminster, CA 92683.

Shiroor Mutt Seer on his Paryaya Poorva Parikrama Yatre in city

Udupi Sri Shiroor Mutt Seer Sri Vedvardhana Teertha Swamiji arriving at Sri Krishnadhama in Saraswathipuram, Mysuru, yesterday.

Mysuru, Dec. 25 (SPN&BS)- Udupi Sri Shiroor Mutt Seer Vedvardhana Teertha Swamiji arrived to a traditional welcome in city yesterday. The Seer was brought in a procession from Javaregowda Park in Saraswathipuram to Sri Krishnadhama.

The Seer is in city, to meet the devotees of Lord Sri Krishna, as part of his Paryaya Poorva Parikrama Yatre, organised by Sri Krishna Mitra Mandali, Sri Krishna Trust and Sri Krishnadhama, on Sahukar Channaiah Road, T.K. Layout here.

Speaking on the occasion, Vid. B.N. Vijayendracharya said, unlike any other Mutts in the country, it's only in Sri Krishna Mutt, that 'Bal Sanyasi' custom is still in practice.

Sri Vedavardhana Teertha Swamiji is now 21-year-old but he embraced spirituality at the age of five. Following a call given by Sri Krishna Mutt, to head the Shiroor Mutt, the Seer, who hails from a place near Dharmasthala, happily accepted the call and came to serve Lord Sri Krishna.

Under the leadership of the Swamiji, the maiden Paryaya Puja tradition will be handed over in a span of two months.

Hence, the Swamiji has personally come down to the city to extend an invitation to the devotees for Paryaya rituals.

Recalling previous Pontiff of Udupi Pejawar Mutt Sri Vishwesha Teertha Swamiji, Vid. Vijayendracharya said Sri Vishwesha Teertha Swamiji wielded enormous clout from local to Delhi level. The Swamiji had been to New Delhi once, when he met the then Deputy Prime Minister L.K. Advani. Jocularly, the Swamiji was addressed as 'Putta Sanyasi' for being short in height, but the former had stated; be it small or big, it's only when people accept us, our puja will reach the God.

Sri Vishwesha Teertha Swamiji holds the credit of uniting all the Hindu saints of the country. It wouldn't be an exaggeration to describe Swamiji as 'Vishwa Sanyasi,' added Vid. Vijayendracharya.

To cite an example of the profound influence enjoyed by the Swamiji, Vid. Vijayendracharya said, when the Swamiji visited a museum in front of Parliament Bhavan in New Delhi, he was astonished to see the photos of the British adorning the walls of the museum. The Swamiji had advised PM Narendra Modi to replace the photos with the leaders who ruled the country, as the British rule ceased long ago.

Rajyotsava awardee Prof. K. Ramamurthy Rao was felicitated on the occasion. KR MLA T.S. Srivatsa, Akhila Karnataka Brahmana Mahasabha Mysuru Unit President D.T. Prakash, Sri Krishna Mitra Mandali President N. Gopalakrishnan and Ravi Shastri and P.S. Shekar of Sri Krishna Trust were present.

AI camera to check man-animal conflict

- **Tech aided camera produces 20 types of shrill, harsh sounds of animals, flies**
- **Successfully experimented at Nagarahole Forest area to stop elephants from straying out of the wild**

AI camera installed at Nagarahole forest to prevent man-animal conflict.

Hunsur, Dec. 25 (KK&BS)- Artificial Intelligence (AI), that is fast pervading every other sector, has now added teeth to Forest Department's fight to prevent man-animal conflict. The experiment of Forest Department by incorporating the new age technology has met with a success.

AI equipped camera was installed in the fringes of Nagarahole forest, where the wild elephants were regularly straying out towards agricultural fields, only to feast on the crops. The camera installed at the cost of Rs. 1.5 lakh, produces 20 types of shrill and harsh sounds like that of honeybees buzzing around, people screaming, bursting of fire crackers etc., hearing which, the pachyderms scare to pass through the camera surveillance.

ACF of Nagarahole Lakshmikanth told *Star of Mysore*, the AI camera is installed at a location named Farm Guard, where Elephant Proof Trench (EPT) cannot be built, fence cannot be installed, so also the chances of installing Railway Barricades and building Check Wall were sparse. It has been already three to four months since this camera is installed and there are no instances of elephants passing through this stretch.

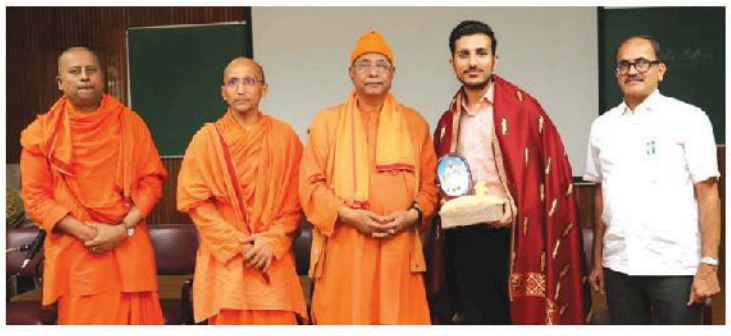
Artificial Intelligence (AI) camera can scare any animals. The camera produces sound according to the image uploaded into it. For now, the picture of elephant has been uploaded and camera produces the sound upon spotting the elephants. With this, we have succeeded in preventing elephants from raiding the villages.

– ACF Lakshmikanth

Upon hearing the sound, the elephants run helter-skelter, as per the visuals caught on camera. The camera covers 150 metres radius of area and produces clear images, added ACF Lakshmikanth.

While the experiment was successfully undertaken, utilising the available funds in the department, it would be more beneficial, if the Government provides special grants to make use of the technology extensively. Additionally, the AI technology should be made affordable, so that effective measures can be taken in the prevention of man-animal conflict.

City's RK Vidyashala alumnus feted for his INI SS feat



Dr. Raveesh Suresh Bannihatti was felicitated for securing first rank in INI SS (Institute of National Importance Super-Specialty) entrance exam, at Sri Ramakrishna Vidyashala in city yesterday. Seen are** (standing from left) **Swami Mahipalanandaji, Swami Yukteshanandaji, Swami Muktidanandaji and T.K. Chandrashekar.

Mysuru, Dec. 25 (PM&BS)- Dr. Raveesh Suresh Bannihatti, an alumnus of Sri Ramakrishna Vidyashala, Yadavagiri in city, who secured first rank in INI SS (Institute of National Importance Super-Specialty) entrance exam conducted for DM, MCh and MD (Hospital Administration) courses at premier Indian institutes like AIIMS, PGIMER, JIPMER, NIMHANS, and SCTIMST, was felicitated at his *alma mater* yesterday.

A native of Hosahalli in Bhadravathi taluk, Raveesh completed his high school and college education at Sri Ramakrishna Vidyashala. Besides, he had emerged as State topper by securing first rank in Science stream, in II PUC Board exams held in 2016.

Dr. Raveesh, on the occasion, also gave tips to the students on cracking competitive exams. He also interacted with the students, thus boosting their confidence.

Sri Ramakrishna Ashram President Swami Muktidanandaji, Sri Ramakrishna Vidyashala Correspondent Swami Yukteshanandaji, Swami Mahipalanandaji and Sri Ramakrishna Vidyashala Principal T.K. Chandrashekar were present on the occasion.

Mysuru Zoo tigress 'Thayamma' dies

Mysuru, Dec. 25 (MTY&BCT)- The Mysuru Zoo's tigress 'Thayamma,' who had been suffering from illness, passed away early yesterday morning, according to Zoo Executive Director P. Anusha.

Thayamma was 4 years and 10 months old. She was rescued as a two-month-old cub from the Bandipur Tiger Reserve on March 28, 2021 and brought to Mysuru Zoo, where she was raised with care and affection by the Zoo staff.

About ten days ago, Thayamma fell ill and stopped consuming food. Diagnosed with a blood cell disorder, she was placed under special medical care from Dec. 17. Despite intensive treatment, she did not respond and succumbed at 3.45 am yesterday.

Her body was cremated as per the protocol.

Zoo staff, who had nurtured her since infancy, expressed deep sorrow at her demise.

DECODING MYTHOLOGY

Dr. Devdutt Pattanaik - Author, Speaker, Illustrator, Mythologist

Virgin Mary in Vailankanni

She is the Virgin Mary, mother of Jesus Christ and she is draped in sari. Thousands of devotees throng her shrine at Vailankanni in Tamil Nadu, deemed basilica by the Roman Catholic Church in 1962.

They bow to her, stretch out their hands to her, lie on their face before her, crawl to her shrine, sing songs of her glory, weep in joy, shave their heads and offer her flowers, saris and candles as an expression of their devotion, for she is the Lady of Good Health.

The story goes that in the 16th century, a cowherd was on his way to the market to sell milk when he stopped to drink water from a pond and rest under a banyan tree. A woman appeared before him bearing a child in her hand and asked for some milk for her child. The boy gave her his pot of milk. After feeding her son, she returned the pot, thanked the cowherd and disappeared.

When the boy reached the market, his customers were upset because he was late. He apologised and told them of what he encountered. Then to everyone's astonishment, the pot started overflowing with milk.

This was no ordinary woman. This was clearly a goddess. The local Catholics recognised her as the Virgin Mary. A small shrine was built for her near the pond where she appeared. The pond was named Matha Kulam, or the Mother's Pool or Our Lady's Pool.

A few years later, some say it was in 1597, she appeared once again, to a lame boy who was selling buttermilk on the roadside. She asked for some buttermilk to feed her child. After the child was fed, she asked the boy to deliver a message to a Catholic resident in the town of Nagapattinam, requesting him to build a church for her.

But the boy pointed out that he was lame and would be unable to act as her messenger. The lady smiled and asked him to try standing up. To the boy's surprise, not only could he stand, he could also walk and run to the town and deliver the message. The gentleman was in no doubt that Our Lady of Good Health was responsible for this miracle.

Finally, a group of Portuguese sailors on their way from Macau, China to Sri Lanka encountered a terrible storm in the Bay of Bengal and prayed to Mother Mary, promising to build a church for her if saved. They landed safely in the area associated with Our Lady of Good Health. These three apparitions appeared in the same area where, today, stands the Gothic style Basilica that draws over two million pilgrims especially during her nine-day festival in August-September. The Mass is conducted in at least eight languages: Tamil, Malayalam, Telugu, Kannada, Konkani, Marathi, Hindi and English.

People of all religions and castes throng the shrine whose divine resident is said to cure all ailments. This place is called 'Lourdes of the East', though in Lourdes, a village in France, Mary appeared to a local peasant girl only in the 19th century.

The festival of the virgin of Vailankanni involves hoisting of a flag on the flagpole before the church and ends with her crowning and her procession. Those who are cured of ailments often return with gifts of a sari and a replica of the cured body part, made in silver and gold.

For devotees, Our Lady of Vailankanni gives children to the childless and finds spouses for the unmarried and jobs for the jobless. She heals every wound and wipes away all suffering. She understands the suffering of humanity. In art, she is sometimes shown with a crescent moon at her feet, complementing the sun, who is her son, Lord Jesus Christ.

The church brings together Catholic beliefs and many Hindu rituals. And though it may disturb a puritan, the local representatives of the Roman Catholic denomination respect the vast and intense outpouring of faith expressed using an Indian idiom. For thousands of years, Indians have been familiar with the idea of Amma or mother-goddess who protects and provides for the village.

Across India, in almost every village, there are local manifestations of the Goddess, who help women bear children, who cure ailments and when angry, can cause plagues and epidemics. It is quite possible that before the shrine of Our Lady of Good Health, this was a local goddess shrine, either tribal or Hindu or Buddhist or Jain or all of these over centuries.

For in India, denominations may change, but the deity remains.

Christianity came to India 2000 years ago. According to local faith, it came to Kerala with St. Thomas, one of Christ's apostles, the one who doubted his resurrection. It also came with traders from Egypt and Arabia. In the 15th century, after the Portuguese discovered the sea-route to Kerala, the Catholic faith thrived along the coasts. It is no coincidence that the apparitions of Mother Mary are dated to a century after the Portuguese's arrival.

This connection to God through Mother Mary distinguishes Catholic Christianity from Protestant Christianity. The idea of the virgin being elevated to the status of 'Mother of God' was not accepted to all. But in pre-Christian traditions, divinity was often seen through the female form. While the male form offered salvation, the female form took care of health and home. We find this divide in Buddhism too, with the Bodhisattva speaking of enlightenment and Tara, the goddess born of his tears, offering compassion.

Likewise if Vishnu of Shri Vaishnavism is associated with dharma (law) and moksha (liberation), Lakshmi embodies artha (wealth) and kama (pleasure).

For many Muslims, the 'hand' of Fatima, the prophet's daughter, is a good luck charm and protection from the evil eye. Naturally, every Indian is drawn to Our Lady's basilica.

devdutt@devdutt.com

Six charred to death in bus-truck collision

Chitradurga, Dec. 25- In a horrific accident, at least 6 people were charred to death while several others sustained injuries when a heavy container truck rammed into a private bus after jumping the road divider on the National Highway (NH-48) at Gorlathu Cross near Javagondanahalli in Hiriyur taluk of Chitradurga district in the wee hours of today.

The 32-seat Non-AC sleeper bus, said to belong to SeaBird Travels, was heading to Gokarna in Uttara Kannada district after departing from Bengaluru last night, while the truck was coming to Bengaluru, when the ghastly mishap occurred.

The truck, which was said to be over-speeding, hit the road divider, jumped over it and crashed into the oncoming bus that was moving in the opposite direction on the Highway.

The ill-fated bus in flames and after... *[Pic.courtesy: Internet]*

The impact of the collision was so severe that it instantly triggered a fire, resulting in the complete charring of the bus and the truck.

It is said, there were 29 passengers in the bus including the driver and the cleaner. Several passengers saved their lives by jumping off the bus as soon as flames erupted. All the injured were rushed to nearby hospitals. While the bus driver and cleaner escaped with injuries, the driver of the truck died on the spot, it is learnt.

IGP (Eastern Range) B.R. Ravikanthegowda and other Police personnel rushed to the spot upon learning about the incident.

PM condoles: Prime Minister Modi condoled the loss of lives in the ghastly accident and announced an ex-gratia of Rs.2 lakh to the next of the kin of the dead.

Today's accident comes just two months after 20 people were killed in a ghastly bus fire accident in Kurnool district of Andhra Pradesh when a private sleeper bus travelling from Hyderabad to Bengaluru went ablaze within moments after hitting a motorcycle on Hyderabad-Bengaluru Highway on Oct. 24.

X-mas celebrated in city

(Continued from page 1)

Parish Priest Rev. Fr. Alex Prashanth Sequeira, Assistant Procurator Fr. Yesu Prasad, and Assistant Parish Priests Rev. Fr. Jeevan Preeth and Rev. Fr. Albert Bhaskar were present. The Priests read from the Bible, followed by special prayers.

Rev. Fr. Alex Prashanth Sequeira said, special prayers were held in Tamil, Kannada and English today. A series of programmes has been planned throughout the day and the public has been invited to visit the Church. Homes, shops and offices belonging to members of the Christian community were illuminated with colourful lights and adorned with Christmas trees, Santa Claus figurines, stars, wreaths and gifts, creating a festive ambience across the city.

The olfactory of the festival was felt with an assortment of sweet delicacies prepared for the occasion, including rose cake, halwa and kajjaya.

Members of the Christian community, including natives of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Goa and other States who have made Mysuru their second home, shared the joy of the festival by distributing sweets among devotees at St. Philomena's Church.

People cutting across faiths thronged churches, especially St. Philomena's Church, this morning. The interiors of the church were decorated with flowers, colourful lighting and buntings. Apart from offering prayers, devotees paid floral tributes to the idol of Jesus Christ.

Tourists among visitors

Tourists were also among the visitors, with St. Philomena's Church being a major attraction. The Christmas carnival that began on Dec. 19 has turned out to be a hit, with makeshift stalls at the Church premises doing brisk business.

The X-mas Carnival concludes on Dec. 26.

A huge star-shaped artefact bearing Christmas & New Year greetings in Kannada welcomed visitors at St. Philomena's Church. Replicas of the Eiffel Tower, a large cut-out of Santa Claus and floral decorations added to the festive appeal.

A similar festive mood prevailed at Sawday Memorial Church on Pulikeshi Road, Wesley Church and St. Bartholomew Church on Mother Teresa Road, CSI Hardwicke Church on Vani Vilas Road, Infant Jesus Church at R.S. Naidu Nagar, Sacred Heart Church at Yadavagiri, St. Joseph's Church at Jayalakshmipuram, St. Thomas Church & St. Mary's Church at Vishweshwaranagar and Infant Jesus Cathedral at Hinkal, among others.

Rs. 22 cr. site con foiled

(Continued from page 1)

Speaking to *Star of Mysore* this morning, Siddaraju said he had also filed a complaint with the District Registrar, Department of Stamps and Registration. He added that he would be meeting City Police Commissioner Seema Latkar later in the day to bring the matter to her notice.

Background

A private layout named Chamundi Sooru Nagar, spread across various survey numbers at Jayapura hobli in Kergalli, was developed by Siddaraju on 28 acres of land.

While most of the sites have already been allotted and registered in favour of buyers, 22 sites of different dimensions are still retained by Siddaraju.

According to sources, the accused had obtained information about the sites through documents from the concerned authority and attempted to get a GPA registered in the name of his youngest brother.

Fraudulent documents were prepared using a fake PAN card, Aadhaar card and forged Siddaraju's signatures, which were submitted to the Sub-Registrar's office. Earlier, an e-khata was also procured through the Bogadi Town Panchayat to facilitate the registration.

On Tuesday (Dec. 23), the accused and his accomplice visited the office of the Sub-Registrar (West) at Vijayanagar 2nd Stage to register the GPA, when the fraud came to light.

The DTP operator, suspecting impersonation, informed higher officials and halted the registration process, following which the accused fled the office.

As Siddaraju was out of station on Dec. 23, he visited the office the next day and formally lodged complaints with both the Sub-Registrar and the jurisdictional Vijayanagar Police.

No CCTV cameras

Despite hundreds of people visiting the Sub-Registrar's office every day and property transactions involving crores of rupees being carried out, CCTV cameras have not yet been installed on the premises.

Officials said, the absence of surveillance hampers efforts to track fraudsters and prevent such attempts.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore*, Sub-Registrar N. Srikanth said, he has written to the District Registrar, Department of Stamps and Registration, seeking permission to lodge a complaint with the jurisdictional Police to initiate action against the accused.

Responding to queries about CCTV cameras, he said that cameras would be installed in the office at the earliest.

IEEE Bangalore Section Chair-Elect 2026

Mysuru, Dec. 25 (BCT)- Dr. Munjandira R. Chengappa, senior technologist and Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), has been elected as Bangalore Section Chair-Elect 2026 in the recently concluded elections.

Dr. Chengappa

The Slate Nomination Committee (SNC) announced the results, declaring Dr. Chengappa the winner. The IEEE Bengaluru Section has jurisdiction over Karnataka and comprises three sub-sections located in Mysuru, Mangaluru, and North Karnataka. Dr. Chengappa will serve as Chair-Elect in 2026 and is slated to assume charge as Chair of the IEEE Bengaluru Section in 2027. A seasoned technologist and academic leader, he was appointed in July 2025 to the 9th Academic Senate of Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU).

With over 15 years of experience in telecom core networks, 5G Open RAN, and cloud-native systems, Dr. Chengappa brings a strong blend of industry expertise and academic engagement to the leadership role.

As Chair-Elect, he has outlined a vision to empower IEEE members across Karnataka through innovation and collaboration, strengthen linkages between academia, industry, and MSMEs to foster entrepreneurship, and promote ethical, human-centred innovation aligned with IEEE's global values. He also aims to reinforce district networks and sub-sections to ensure balanced regional development, advance Karnataka's sustainability and technology goals and nurture youth, women and professionals as the next generation of technology leaders.

Annual Day at City Schools

Mysuru, Dec. 25- **Kodagu Model School, Mysuru,** celebrated its 17th Annual Day on Dec. 20 at the School premises on Kaveri Road in Vidyashankara Layout, with great enthusiasm.

Geetha, BRC Coordinator, Mysuru Taluk (Rural), who was the chief guest, spoke on the importance of parental involvement in children's lives and advised parents to actively engage with their children to reduce dependence on gadgets.

Naina Achappa, Principal of Shishya Play Home, Mysuru, who was the guest of honour, shared her views on the growth and progress of the school since its inception.

K.M. Belliappa, Sri Kaveri Kodava Association, Mysuru East and School President, presided and encouraged SSLC students to aim for distinction.

Sunil Kumar from the BRC was also present along with the Management members.

SSLC school topper for the academic year 2024-25 and other best performers and staff members who completed 10 years of service were felicitated.

The programme concluded with colourful cultural performances by students showcasing India's rich cultural heritage. Parents, well-wishers and members of the Academic Council and Sri Kavery Kodava Association, Mysuru East attended the event.

RAINBOWPUBLICSCHOOL: "In today's world, though academics take up the main agenda in education, other cultural activities and co-curricular exposure bring out the best in all students," said Vishwanath, Retd Registrar, KSOU and Professor of Bio-Chemistry.

Speaking as the chief guest at the Annual Day celebrations, he lauded the efforts of Rainbow Public School, Mysuru, in providing holistic education.

The event themed 'Bharath Nrithya Yathra - Mini India On Stage ' was a spectacular journey through rich heritage and diverse dance forms of the country.

Veeresh Kumar, Scientist and Project Director at RMP Mysore, who was the guest of honour said, "The intersection of Science along with traditions will make students curious and respect values and reason, making them wholesome students."

Chairman of Rainbow Public School C.A. Cariappa, CEO Sujani Cariappa and Principal S. Antony lauded performances of all students.

ST. FRANCIS SCHOOL, NAGUVANAHALLI, celebrated its Annual Day titled "Spectrum 25" at the School premises on Dec. 22.

Most Rev. Dr. Francis Serrao SJ, Bishop of Mysuru, was the chief guest. Very Rev. Fr. Thomas Palakudiyil, TOR, Minister Provincial, St. Louis Province, Bengaluru, presided. Rev. Fr. Bosco, Principal, St. Francis School and Rev. Fr. Kiran, Vice-Principal, graced the occasion.

Dr. B. K. Prathima (Education Coordinator, Srirangapatna) and Prof. Joseph Mathew (Past Rotary District Governor) were the guests of honour at the programme anchored by the students, whose confidence and clarity were commendable.

Most Rev. Dr. Francis Serrao SJ, Bishop of Mysuru, seen with Dr. Prathima, Education Coordinator, Fr. Bosco Vempala, Very Rev. Fr. Thomas Palakudiyil, Dr. Joseph Mathew, Fr. Kiran and Sr. Reny.

Two declamation speeches on Swami Vivekananda and Martin Luther delivered with conviction received wide appreciation.

Students presented well-coordinated cultural performances. A special attraction of the evening was the performance by junior Puneeth Rajkumar. Rain dance, featuring an artificial rain effect, stood out for its creativity.

Disruption in power supply on Dec. 26 and 29

Mysuru, Dec. 25- As Chamundeshwari Electricity Supply Corporation (CESC) has taken up underground cable installation works at Agrahara Feeder coming under Doddakere Power Distribution Centre, there will be disruption in power supply on Dec. 26 between 10 am and 6 pm in the following areas:

Shankar Mutt, Uttaradi Mutt, Agrahara, Ramanuja Road 1st to 4th Cross, Sunnadakeri, Tyagaraja Road, Hosakeri and surrounding areas.

Dec. 29

As Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited (KPTCL) has taken up its 3rd quarterly maintenance works at South and Mandakalli Power Distribution Centres, there will be no power supply on Dec. 29 between 10 am and 6 pm in the following areas:

South Power Distribution Centre: Vidyaranyapuram 25th to 30th Cross, Kanakagiri, Industrial Suburb 1st, 2nd and 3rd Stages, Chamundipuram Circle, Silk Factory, Ashokapuram, Krishnamurthypuram, Medarakeri, RTO Road, Ballal Circle, Nanjumalige Circle, Bandipalya, Hosahundi, Gudumadanahalli, Uttanahalli, Eligehundi, Alanahalli Ring Road, Nachanahalli Palya, Kavitha Bakery Circle, JP Nagar A,B,C,D and E Blocks, Gobbalimara, Omkar Layout, Police Booth, Siddalingeshwara Layout, Amogha Palace and surrounding areas.

Mandakalli Power Distribution Centre: Mandakalli, Gejjagalli IP Limits, surrounding areas of S. Uttanahalli, J.P. Nagar, Srinagar, Reshmenagar, Mahalakshmi Layout, Teachers Colony, R.K. Layout, Bhavani Layout, Vinayaka Layout, Koppaluru, Mahalakshmi Drusthi Layout and surrounding areas, according to a press release from Chamundeshwari Electricity Supply Corporation Executive Engineer, N.R. Mohalla Division.

Free Spoken Sanskrit Classes

Mysuru, Dec. 25- Samskrita Bharati, Mysuru, is conducting a free 10-day Spoken Sanskrit Classes from Dec. 25, 2025 to Jan. 5, 2026, at G.M. Netaji, #831, 11th Cross, Ramanuja Road, Mysuru. Classes will be held from 6 pm to 7 pm.

Those interested may make use of the opportunity.

For registration and details, contact Mob: 79750-34048 or 80733-67494, according to a press release.

Dalavai Vikramaraya of Mysore State comes alive on stage at Vanaranga

Students of Bharatiya Rangashikshana Kendra stage play 'Vigada Vikramaraya'; To be re-staged on Dec. 25, 26, 27

Mysuru, Dec. 25 (BNR)- The students of Bharatiya Rangashikshana Kendra of Rangayana, Mysuru, last evening brought alive on stage the episodes the peak and end of the rule of Dalavai Vikramaraya of the Mysore State.

As part of their Practice Series theatre experiment, the 2025-26 batch students staged the play 'Vigada Vikramaraya' at Vanaranga in the Rangayana premises.

The play took the gathering back to the 1637, when the Kingdom of Mysore was ruled by Maharaja Immadi Raja Wadiyar, during which his inefficiency in administration and womanising ways, led to Dalavai Vikramaraya serving as the *de facto* ruler.

The play brings to the fore how Vikramaraya's conniving ways led to the killing of Immadi Raja Wadiyar by poisoning through Rajamata Thimmajammani and appointing of wrestler and the deceased Maharaja's cousin Kanteerava Narasaraja I (fondly known as Ranadheera Kanteerava), as the new ruler, intending to control him as a puppet.

However, wicked Vikramaraya's plans backfires and ends in his own death as Ranadheera Kanteerava turns to be compassionate towards his subjects.

All these episodes were put to life by each and every performer on stage assuring a promising future of the theatre.

The play written by Samsa, is directed by Salian Umesh Narayan. Lighting by Mahesh Kallatti, stage design by Janardhan, costume design by B.N. Shashikala and properties by K.R. Nandini.

On-stage artistes

Sarvesh (Raichur)- Vikramaraya; J. Nishal (Bengaluru) - Sri Immadi Raja Wadiyar & Ranga; C.N. Darshan (K.R. Nagar) - Sri Ranadheera Kanteerava Narasaraja Wadiyar; M. Madan Raj (Anekal) - Nireesha, villager; Tejaswini Hegde (Shirsi) - Rajamata Thimmajammani & villager; Saraswati (Kushalnagar) - Tungaraya; G. Venkat Kishore (Chennai) - Alagarajaiah; Pooja (Hassan) - Apsara, Rudravva & villager; M.V. Arpitha (Hassan) - Chendavve; S.H. Kiran (Mysuru) - Chenna, villager; Ajit Bijapur - Jatti, Gowda & villager; Gadigeppa Bhavi (Haveri) - Bommaras Pandit, Jatti, villager; Shivaraj Jalihala (Bagalkote) - Jatti, villager; K.M. Ravi (Hassan) - villager.

The play will be re-staged for three more days from today — Dec. 25, 26 and 27 — at Vanaranga in Rangayana premises at 6.30 pm.

R.S. Concert, Kavi-Kavya Sangeetha Sangama enthral Palace gathering

R.S. Karnatak Music Concert, under the direction of Dr. R.S. Nandakumar and Dr. Ambika Shastry, being presented at the Palace premises last evening as part of the ongoing Cultural Programmes of Winter Festival - Flower Show organised by Mysore Palace Board. Picture below shows singers of Mano Music Lines presenting 'Kavi-Kavya Sangeetha Sangama' music programme at the Palace premises on Tuesday. The cultural programme, in the backdrop of illuminated Palace, will conclude today (Dec. 25) and Flower Show will be on till Dec. 31 (10 am to 9 pm).

Classical Music Concert at Jayanagar Rama Mandira

Vid. Manasa Nayana *Vid. Narasimhan* *Vid.Shivashankar* *Vid. Manjunath*

Mysuru, Dec. 25- Sri Thyagaraja Sangeetha Sabha Charitable Trust, Mysuru, will be presenting a Karnatak classical vocal concert by Vid. Manasa Nayana at Jayanagar Rama Mandira here on Dec. 27 at 6 pm.

He will be accompanied by Vid. S.N. Narasimhan, Vid. H.L. Shivashankar Swamy and Vid. S. Manjunath on violin, mridanga and ghata respectively.

Artiste's Profile: Manasa Nayana is a front-runner among the current generation of classical musicians hailing from Karnataka. Initially he was trained by Vid. S.K. Vasumathi, one of the pioneers of Sugama Sangeetha movement and then under Vid. Vairamangalam Lakshminarayana, Chennai.

Later the guidance he received from great masters, Dr. R.K. Srikantan and Dr. R. Vedavalli firmly established his outlook in music, besides enriching him with rich repertoire of compositions, adherence to tradition, and clear diction.

He was a recipient of several awards including, first rank in all the three music examinations of KSEEB, fist prizes in national level music competition of AIR, RTP competition of Shruthi Manjari and South Central Zone Cultural Centre. An 'A' graded artiste of AIR, he was also a recipient of 'Yuva Puraskar' from Ananya, Bengaluru and Nalinakanti Fine Arts, Chennai.

Manasa Nayana is well-known in music circles for his innovative efforts of introducing classical music to school children; inmates of old age homes, prisoners, travellers and also for his informative lec-demos.

After his post graduation from IIT, Madras, his passion for music guided his life into music from academics pursuing Ph.D at IISc, Bengaluru.

For details, contact Ph: 0821-2512422 or Mob: 94484-86582.

WORD OF THE DAY

Hark Back

Pronunciation: HAHRK-BAK (verb)
Meaning: Harking back can be about turning back to an earlier topic or circumstance, as in "a storyteller harking back to his youth," or it can be about going back to something as an origin or source, as in "a style that harks back to the turn of the previous century."
Origin: Hark, a very old word meaning "to listen," was used as a cry in hunting. The master of the hunt might cry "Hark! Forward!" or "Hark! Back!" The cries became set phrases, both as nouns and verbs. Thus, a "hark back" was a retracing of a route by dogs and hunters, and to "hark back" was to turn back along the path. From its use in hunting, the verb acquired its current figurative meanings concerned with returning to the past. The variants hearken and harken (also very old words meaning "to listen") are also used, with and without back, as synonyms of hark back.
Example: "The single harks back to Chenier's heyday when his music was produced on 45s and put into jukeboxes, says [Maureen] Loughran." — Alicia Ault, Smithsonian Magazine, 25 June 2025.

THE ODD WORD

Labile

Adaptable; unstable.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

Out on the town

Meaning: You use the phrase 'Out on the town' to describe the act of going out to enjoy yourself, particularly in the evening.
Origin: No one is certain when the expression 'Out on the town' was first used. The term became popular after a stage production called 'Out on the town' was performed in 1944, and it gained even more popularity when a film by the same name was produced in 1949.
Example: "We went out on the town last night. First we had dinner, then we caught a comedy show."

QUOTE BOX

Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible. **—Francis of Assisi**

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:

Answer: You'll get over it.

SUDOKU

9				4	7	6		5
							1	4
4			3			8		
		9		7			6	
6								3
	3			6		9		
		4			1			7
1	9							
5		7	4	9				2

Answer to previous puzzle

8	5	1	3	6	9	2	4	7
6	2	3	8	4	7	1	5	9
4	9	7	5	2	1	8	6	3
9	4	6	2	1	5	3	7	8
5	1	8	9	7	3	6	2	4
7	3	2	4	8	6	5	9	1
3	8	4	7	5	2	9	1	6
2	6	9	1	3	4	7	8	5
1	7	5	6	9	8	4	3	2

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CROSS WORD

ACROSS:

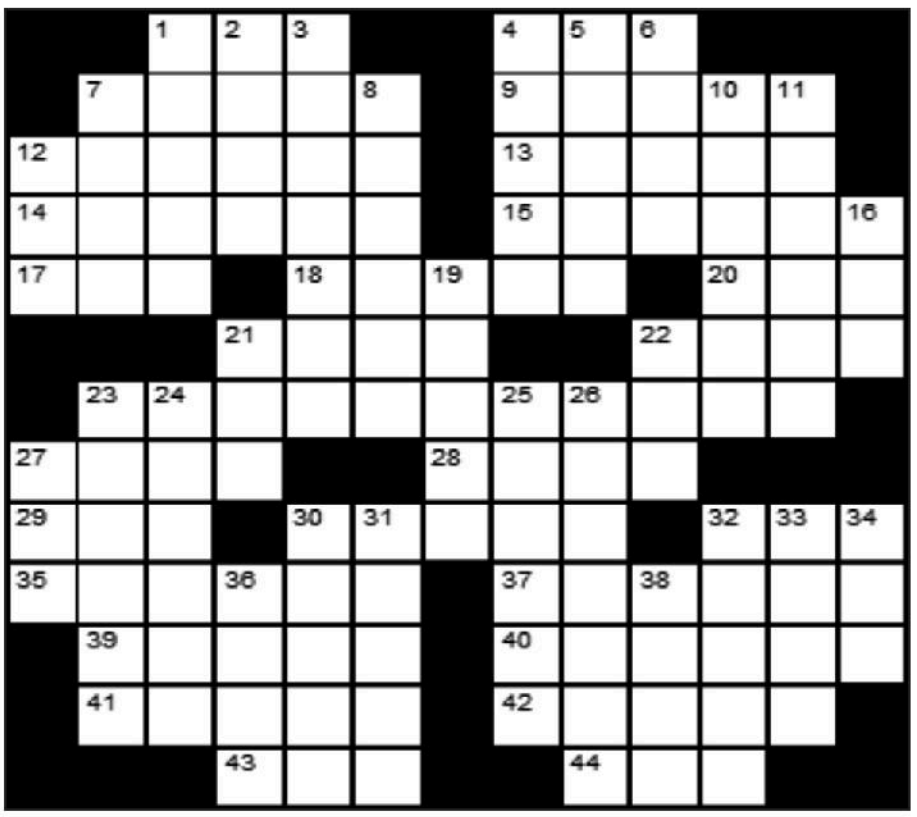
1 Electro-magnetic Interference
4 Cash source?
7 Fountain in Rome
9 Outdo
12 ___ skirt: kilt
13 "Solly" anagram for a pesticide ?
14 Eleven-time French Prime Minister
15 Starlike or heavenly
17 Desmond's pet name?
18 Clothes line of modern style
20 Highest in cards
21 Midday
22 Narrow cut
23 Expressed in restrained terms
27 Strike with a knife
28 Simple to do
29 Amb. attendant
30 __ __ with : bear or tolerate? (3,2)
32 Brown-capped mushroom
35 Sums up
37 Periods of darkness
39 A Turkish inn - "Raise" anagram ?
40 Agreement
41 Vehicle that runs on rails
42 Meaning
43 Time To Go
44 Scottish river

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

T	L	C	■	S	C	O	T	■	■	F	R	I
A	I	A	■	T	H	R	O	B	■	L	A	P
L	E	U	■	R	E	A	D	Y	■	O	V	A
C	U	L	P	A	■	■	■	E	D	G	E	D
■	■	■	T	W	I	■	A	S	A	■	■	■
A	E	R	O	■	G	M	T	■	S	T	E	W
C	D	U	■	■	L	O	O	■	■	R	A	O
T	O	G	O	■	O	W	N	■	L	A	R	K
■	■	■	W	O	O	■	E	S	P	■	■	■
F	I	E	L	D	■	■	■	P	S	A	L	M
A	B	U	■	I	C	E	N	I	■	P	R	O
M	E	R	■	N	U	R	S	E	■	S	O	S
E	X	O	■	■	B	A	W	L	■	E	N	T

DOWN

1 To __ __ human and forgive divine? (3,2)
2 Mark Zuckerberg's company
3 Scott's famous novel
4 Collection of maps
5 Clandestine meeting
6 Word expressing obligation or insistence
7 Amount deducted from weight
8 Taking place within a building
10 Team spirit
11 Even-tempered
12 To Be Determined
16 Lease or rent
19 Map part
21 Nav Data Base
22 Barnyard shelter
23 Of the highest degree
24 Gossip
25 Baits
26 Had an ambition
27 To put in place
30 Pigtail
31 Employing
32 Pursue or follow
33 Kitchen extension?
34 "Gangnam Style" rapper
36 Smell _ __ : suspect foul play (1,3)
38 Unit of heredity



CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

HFEO HW LDOEJK OLL MFWEV, HW

WBOWWR OLL YJSFOYX

TODAY'S CLUE: L EQUALS O

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: Of the delights of this world man cares most for sexual intercourse, yet he has left it out of his heaven.

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- **Rajkamal Theatre** **Ph: 2423554**
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  Kantara: A Legend Chapter - 1 (K) - 4 Shows
- **Padma Theatre** **Ph: 2521923**
  Padayappa (Ta) - 4 Shows
- **Balaji Theatre** **Mob: 98863-25207**
  Dhurandhar (H) - 3 Shows

MOVIES AT DRC CINEMAS Ph: 4240422 4241800

Mark (K)	(S-1)	6.30 am
	(S-2)	6.30 am
	(S-3)	6.30 am
	(S-4)	6.30 am, 10 am, 1 pm, 4 pm, 7 pm,
Dhurandhar (H)	(S-1)	10 am, 6.05 pm, 10.05 pm
Avatar: Fire & Ash (E-3D)	(S-1)	2.10 pm
	(S-2)	9.35 am
45 (K)	(S-2)	1.30 pm
	(S-3)	4.10 pm
	(S-4)	10 pm
Sirai (Ta)	(S-2)	4.35 pm
Tu Meri Main Tera Main Tera Tu Meri (H)	(S-2)	7.20 pm
Champion (Te)	(S-2)	10.15 pm
The Devil (K)	(S-3)	12.50 pm
Anaconda (E)	(S-3)	7.15 pm
Sarvam Maya (Ma)	(S-3)	9.45 pm

MOVIES AT MYSURU VISION CINEMAS Ph: 2973519

Dhurandhar (H)	:	3.10 pm, 9.35 pm
45 (K)	:	3.45 pm, 6.45 pm, 9.45 pm
Mark (K)	:	4 pm, 7 pm, 10 pm
Anaconda (E)	:	4.10 pm
Avatar: Fire & Ash (E-3D)	:	6.15 pm
Vrusshabha (Ma)	:	7.10 pm
Sarvam Maya (Ma)	:	9.55 pm

MOVIES AT NEXUS MALL

Anaconda (E)	:	1.10 pm, 7.25 pm
		6.30 pm, 10 pm, 10.30 pm
Tu Meri Main Tera Main Tera Tu Meri (H)	:	3.05 pm
Avatar: Fire & Ash (E-3D)	:	3.25 pm, 9.40 pm
Dhurandhar (H)	:	3.30 pm, 6.05 pm, 10.30 pm
45 (K)	:	3.45 pm, 7.10 pm, 7.40 pm, 9.55 pm
The Devil (K)	:	3.55 pm
Mark (K)	:	4.05 pm, 6.50 pm, 10.15 pm, 10.30 pm
Sarvam Maya (Ma)	:	7.20 pm

MOVIES AT GARUDA MALL

The Devil (K)	:	1.20 pm
Mark (K)	:	2.50 pm, 7.25 pm, 10.10 pm
Dhurandhar (H)	:	3.10 pm, 5.55 pm, 10.3 pm
Avatar: Fire & Ash (E-3D)	:	3.15 pm, 10.20 pm
Anaconda (E)	:	4.45 pm
Tu Meri Main Tera Main Tera Tu Meri (H)	:	7 pm
45 (K)	:	7.15 pm, 10 pm

EVENTS TODAY (DEC. 25)

- **Sri Lakshminarasimhaswamy Temple:** Dhanurmasa Puja, Temple premises, Jayalakshmipuram, **5.30 pm to 7.30 pm.**
- **Trayinyas Shrividya Foundation and Oriental Research Institute (ORI), University of Mysore (UoM):** Valedictory of 4th International Conference on Shrividya 2025 (Knowledge - Science - Philosophy), Sri Vidyaranya Bharathi Swamiji, Sri Hampi Virupaksha Vidyaranya Mahasamsthanam, Raja Peetham, Hampi and Sri Madhusudananda Swamiji, Peethadhipati, Omkar Ashram, Bengaluru, will grace the occasion, MLAs K. Harishgowda and T.S. Srivatsa, VC Prof. N.K. Lokanath and former MLA H.P. Manjunath chief guests; Unveiling of the oil portrait of Shri Anandabhairava and Anandabhairavi; Saxophone Fusion Music Concert by Harish Pandav, Sri Krishnaraja Wadiyar Senate Bhavan, Manasagangothri, **5.30 pm.**
- **Parampare:** Bhajans/ Devaranama by Surabhi Ganakala Mandira, Gokulam; Dr. Veena Bannanje delivers lecture on 'Srimad Bhagavatha,' Mysore Vasudevacharya Bhavana, JLB Road, **6 pm.**
- **Mysore Palace Board:** Winter Festival - Flower Show, light music by Poornima Harish, Vidya and H. Srivatsa, **5 pm to 5.30 pm;** Dance performance by R. Preksha and team, **5.35 pm to 6.10 pm;** 'Harinaama Sankirtana' by ISKCON Mysuru, **6.15 pm to 6.45 pm;** 'Phala-Pushpa Geetha Gaana' by P. Akash and team, **6.50 pm to 7.50 pm;** 'Sangeetha Gaanamrutha' by playback singer Vasuki Vaibhav and troupe, Palace premises, **8 pm to 9.30 pm.**
- **Sri Ramakrishna Ashram, Mysuru:** Swami Jnanayoganandaji speaks on 'Srimad Bhagavad Gita' in Kannada, Ashram premises ,Yadavagiri, **6 pm to 6.50 pm.**
- **Rangayana, Mysuru:** Staging of play 'Vigada Vikramaraya' by students of Bharatiya Rangashikshana Kendra, written by Samsa and directed by Saliyan Umesh Narayan, Vanaranga, Rangayana, **6.30 pm.**
- **Hotel Mayura Hoysala, KSTDC:** Christmas celebrations, Sea Food Aahara Mela, Hotel premises, JLB Road, near Field Marshal K.M. Cariappa Circle, **7 pm to 10.30 pm.**

EVENTS TOMORROW (DEC. 26)

- **Sri Lakshminarasimhaswamy Temple of Melukote Yadugiri Yatiraj Mutt, Mysuru Branch:** Dhanurmasa Puja, Temple premises, Jayalakshmipuram, **5.30 am to 10 am and 5.30 pm to 7.30 pm.**
- **Mysore Palace Board:** Winter Festival - Flower Show, Palace premises, **10 am to 9 pm;** Palace illumination, **7 pm to 9 pm.**
- **Dr. Babu Jagjivan Ram Study, Research and Extension Centre:** Seminar on 'Social Movement for Social Justice,' social-political analyst from Chitradurga Kodihalli Santhosh special guest, former KPSC Member H. Govindaiah inaugurates, Centre Director Prof. K. Sadashiva presides, Centre auditorium, Manasagangothri, **10.30 am.**
- **Prof. Anita Vimla Braggs Shishya Balaga, Mysuru:** Guruvandane and Felicitation to Prof. Anita Vimla Braggs, poetess and retd. Maharaja's College Principal Prof. C. Sarvamangala inaugurates, retd. Professor of Maharaja's College Prof. H.M. Vasanthamma presides, Maharaja's College Folklore Division Professor and Head Prof. H.R. Chethana delivers felicitation address, Senior Journalist Amshi Prasanna Kumar chief guest, University of Mysore Syndicate Member Kyathanahalli Nagaraju and Shankar M. Huyilalu special invitees, Fine Arts College auditorium, Manasagangothri, **11 am.**
- **Parampare:** Bhajans/ Devaranama by students of Ganabharathi School of Music, Kuvempunagar; Dr. Veena Bannanje delivers lecture on 'Srimad Bhagavatha,' Mysore Vasudevacharya Bhavana, JLB Road, **6 pm.** [Mob: 99860-37311]
- **Dr. Chandrashekar's Cauvery Ayurveda Research and Development (CCARD), a dedicated wing of Cauvery Ayurveda Medical College and Hospital, Mysuru and Maharaja Institute of Ayurveda Medical Sciences College and Hospital, Mandya:** Inauguration of 2-day International Conference on 'Intersecting Nutrition, Lifestyle Medicine and Sustainable Health Care,' Dr. Sri Nirmalanandanatha Swamiji of Adichunchanagiri Mutt graces the occasion, former Dy.CM Dr. C.N. Ashwath Narayan chief guest, RGUHS Vice-Chancellor Dr. B.C. Bhagavan presides, SDM Institute of Management Development (SDM-IMD) campus, Chamundi Hill Road, **5 pm.**
- **Ganabharathi, Mysuru:** Grand Western Classical Music Concert in memory of Vid. Swaramurthy V.N. Rao, saxophone recital by Vid. Arokya Swamy, accompanied by Arogyaraj on keyboard, Balasubramanyam & Amogh on piano, Vincent on drums and Anand on clarinet, Ganabharathi premises, Kuvempunagar, **6 pm.**
- **Rangayana, Mysuru:** Staging of play 'Vigada Vikramaraya' by students of Bharatiya Rangashikshana Kendra, written by Samsa and directed by Saliyan Umesh Narayan, Vanaranga, Rangayana premises, **6.30 pm.**
- **Hotel Mayura Hoysala, Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation (KSTDC):** Christmas celebrations, Sea Food Aahara Mela, Hotel premises, JLB Road, near Field Marshal K.M. Cariappa Circle, **7 pm to 10.30 pm.**

MOVIES AT MALL OF MYSORE

Avatar: Fire & Ash (E-3D)	:	2.55 pm, 10 pm
The Devil (K)	:	3 pm
Tu Meri Main Tera Main Tera Tu Meri (H)	:	4.15 pm
Mark (K)	:	4.50 pm, 6.55 pm, 10.10 pm
Dhurandhar (H)	:	6.25 pm, 10.30 pm
45 (K)	:	7.15 pm, 10.20 pm
Anaconda (E)	:	7.55 pm

MOVIES AT CENTRO MALL

Mindiyum Paranjum (U)	:	1.25 pm
Avatar: Fire & Ash (E-2D)	:	3.15 pm, 10.20 pm
Mark (K)	:	3.20 pm, 7.05 pm, 10.10 pm
Vrusshabha (Ma)	:	4.30 pm
Anaconda (E)	:	4.50 pm
Dhurandhar (H)	:	6.25 pm, 10.30 pm
45 (K)	:	7.15 pm, 10 pm
Tu Meri Main Tera Main Tera Tu Meri (H)	:	7.15 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there is no minimum audience of 15.

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DOCUMENTS LOST

I, Tejendra C, residing at No. 4697, 2nd Stage, Sathagalli, Mysore, have lost the Registration Letter & Identification : MYE-1-02455-201314 Documents lost on 20.12.2025 near Devegowda Circle.

Finders Please Contact : 93434 25866

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Dr M S Ranganath
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